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Sent: Fri 6/22/2012 7:42:38 PM
Subject: Fw: Current BDCP wetland mapping approach vs. original plan
BDCP Method for mapping waters and wetlands 061412.docx

Hi, Rob: I think it would be important to get your concurrence on this approach for mapping the aquatic resources for the BDCP. This is the updated version intended for use in the EIR/EIS process as explained below.

Erin or I could explain any details if necessary.

Thanks,
Paul

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----- Forwarded by Paul Jones/R9/USEPA/US on 06/22/2012 12:40 PM -----

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Date: 06/20/2012 05:59 PM
Subject: Current BDCP wetland mapping approach vs. original plan

Hello-

As discussed at the Wetlands Mapping Methodology meeting on May 29, 2012, the mapping approach described in "Proposed Approach to the Preliminary Determination of Potentially Jurisdictional Waters of the United States, including Wetlands for the Conveyance Options proposed in the Bay Delta Conservation Plan EIR/EIS" dated August 24, 2011 has been updated. The attached document, "Method for Mapping Waters and Wetlands for the Bay Delta Conservation Plan EIR/EIS" dated June 14, 2012 reflects the changes in our wetland mapping methodology. As requested, I have outlined the difference between the current wetland mapping approach and the previously approved approach in the following paragraphs.

Both the details and the focus of the mapping methodology have changed. Originally, using GIS, potentially jurisdictional wetlands in the project area were selected from vegetation types in DFG's

floristically-based Delta vegetation map. In the current approach, wetlands are mapped using interpretation of aerial photographs taken in multiple years with varying water years. Because this mapping is conducted at a finer scale and utilizes other information such as landscape position to determine likely wetland status, it more accurately portrays potentially jurisdictional wetlands in the project area.

The focus of the original mapping was to calculate impacts to potentially jurisdictional wetlands due to each of the conveyance alignment alternatives (Conservation Measure 1 of BDCP) analyzed in the Bay Delta Conservation Plan EIR/EIS. This comparison was to contribute to the "Regional" 404 (b) (1) Alternatives Analysis. The updated method will use this comparison of wetland acres due to conveyance alignment alternatives for EIR/EIS purposes only. Once a project is chosen through the EIR/EIS process, a comparison between the wetland impacts of alternative locations of specific project facilities for the chosen conveyance alignment, along with CRAM assessments, will contribute to the a 404 (b) (1) Alternatives Analysis.

Please let me know if you have any questions or comments,
Jean

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